



THE LOYAL HOME WORKERS

MOTTO. PRO PATRIA.
FLOWER, FORGET ME NOT.

OBJECTS. PROGRESS, PATRIOTISM.

EDITOR'S CHAT.

A Few Thoughts of St. Valentine.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

The 14th of February is a day of pure sentiment, the one day of the year when we can make love to all our friends, send pretty little tokens to our dear ones, and do all sorts of deliciously foolish things, all in the name of St. Valentine.

St. Valentine was a Bishop of early Rome, who was beheaded in the reign of Claudius, 270 A. D., and was early canonized. He was a man of rare sympathies, broad charities and universal love, famous for his deeds of kindness. It is fitting that the 14th of February should be called St. Valentine's Day. The customs, however, of Valentine's Day antedate St. Valentine, and formed a part of the ceremonies of the old Roman festival, Lupercalia, celebrated in the early Spring.

This is a relic of the nature-religion which was the primitive form of worship, and sprang from a recognition of the peculiarities of the season. It is about the middle of the year that birds choose their mates, and probably thence came the custom of the young men and maidens choosing valentines or special friends on that day. As Tennyson says:

"In the Spring a fuller crimson comes upon the robin's breast;
In the Spring the white-throat hatches the flaxen egg;
In the Spring a livelier iris changes on the burnished dove;
In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love."

St. Valentine's Day was formerly celebrated on the Continent, especially in France, by a very peculiar and amusing custom.

On the eve of St. Valentine's Day a number of young men and maidens would assemble together and inscribe upon little billets the names of an equal number of maids and bachelors of their acquaintance, and then draw them into a receptacle of some sort and then draw them, lotterily. The person thus drawn became one's Valentine.

These imaginary engagements often led to real ones, because of the consequences of the custom. It was that for a young man became bound to the service of his Valentine, and the fashion of a medieval knight to his sweetheart.

At one time it was customary for lovers to make each other presents and gifts of garters, gloves, and jewelry were common in the 15th century.

The introduction of the comic Valentine detracts much from the grandeur and solemnity of the festival. The approach of the day is now heralded by the appearance in shop-windows of vast numbers of hideous caricatures with burlesque verses too numerous to suggest, and which are sold everywhere. Personal feelings are burlesqued and ridiculed even to coarseness, and ill-natured people make them a pretext for paying off old scores of real or fancied injuries.

We also see the so-called pretty Valentines, which are, generally, of a sentimental kind, representing a view of Hymen's altar, with a pair of impossible lovers undergoing initiation into wedded happiness before it, while Cupid flutters above, and hearts are transfixed with his darts decorated to his corners.

Besides the exchange of Valentines it is quite customary now to send to our friends books, poems, and love letters, and some thing to suggest that we love them and are thinking of them.

The Valentine, in some form, is destined to live as long as young people have their fancies and as long as love rules the world.

CONVERSATION CLUB.

Prize Paper—The National Tribune Grows in Interest—Various Topics.

PRIZE PAPER.

Lillian Knight, Montevideo, Minn., is awarded a copy of Kate Browne Sherwood's "Campfire and Memorial Poems" for the following paper:

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS.

"Glory and love to the men of old,
Their sons may copy their virtues told,
Courage in heart and deed, and in hand
Ready to die for the Fatherland."

February is a month of birthdays of notable men, and as the schools are all in session during this month, the teacher who wishes to make a lasting impression upon her pupils, through recalling the lives of great men, need not look for a timely opportunity.

By a little forethought and study, material may be obtained for most pleasing and beneficial entertainment, and for the home. One can hardly take up a paper or magazine that does not contain poems, anecdotes, or incidents of Lincoln or Washington, the great men whose birthdays come in February.

The teacher who would inspire her pupils with true patriotism, must himself be patriotic. In no other way do pupils get such an inspiration to really noble deeds as when listening to the stories of great men, and their noble deeds.

If enough good biographies were written related to the children there would be less difficulty with the study of history later on. To bring a child into touch with a noble life, to inspire a deep admiration for the love of loyalty and truth, should be the aim of every teacher. To do this requires time, thought, and a loyal heart.

Introduce George Washington to the children as a real boy. Introduce them to his home life and school life. They will be interested in his love of outdoor sports, his enthusiasm for play, his soldier, his fondness for the chase, his desire to be a sailor, and his love of a good horse, a sorcerer; and do not omit the story of the battle of the Clouds.

Follow him through the French and Indian Wars and then through the period of the Revolution, dwelling upon the incidents of his courage and fortitude, and his strength to rise to every emergency, whether in military or civil life.

Tell about his stately wife and beautiful daughter, Mrs. Washington, and his famous friends—Madame de Menthon, and his friends, progressive statesmen, from boyhood to manhood, from manhood to statesmanship.

Teach the children patriotic songs, decorate the schoolroom with the flag and the blackboard with children's drawings, illustrative of the story of Washington. Let the children help to make up the picture for the old flag.

Little batches cut from colored cardboard and tied with tiny bows of ribbon, on the handle, are pretty souvenirs to give the children on Washington's Birthday.

I have taken Washington as an example, but the life of any other noted man may be treated in the same way. You will be surprised to find how patriotism grows when we are doing an organization for Progress and Patriotism. So just among ourselves let us use the old, time-honored "C."

Referring to the article on "Historic Valentine's Day," I am a more ardent reader of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE each week, and the Plymouth sketch brought up that never-to-be-forgotten day when Minnie, best, Lucie Barrett, and I strolled through the fog to Plymouth, sat on the old rock, strolled through

SUNDAY MEDITATION.

A Study of the International Sunday-School Lesson Appointed for Feb. 21, 1897.

Subject: Arrest of St. Stephen, Acts 6:9-15. Death of St. Stephen, 7:54-60.

One reading these notes should first carefully study the paragraph from the Holy Scriptures as indicated above.

INTRODUCTION.

We shall value our study of the Bible in proportion to our idea of its importance. The book certainly has a strong hold on many eminent men, and its principles exercise a powerful influence on the public opinion.

The New York Tribune, Feb. 16, 1896, in an editorial, said:

"The Bible furnishes the best ground for a perfect scheme of ethics. Its teachings are the basis of the moral and political life of the world. It has been passed for the government of men and for the protection of individual rights and for the perfection of human nature."

"When Capt. Shearer learned of the surrender he plunged his sword into the earth, and then he raised it and, thrusting it into the ground, he said: 'I am a Christian. I am a Christian. I am a Christian.'"

"Great-grandfather Dickey was an Indian interpreter in the war of 1812. Except his own brothers and sisters, his only playmates for years were the sons of Kill Buck, the Chief of the Miamas."

LOYAL HOME WORKERS.

Secretary's Notes—Replies to Questions. What They Are Saying.

L.H.W. BULLETIN NO. 53.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 11, 1897.

Applications: John Stockdale, Custer, Mich.; Carrie Hall, Assistant Secretary of Missouri.

From correspondence received by the Secretary, it is noted that some members drop out of the Loyal Home Workers when anything which does not interest them comes up. This is wrong. We must not expect everybody to agree with us. We must not expect to have our every idea carried in by the majority.

To withdraw under such circumstances, or to fail to attend, is to show a lack of interest in the work, and a lack of stamina and perseverance—so necessary to patriotic effort.

If you are not pleased, or find cause for criticism, stay in the association and press your ideas. If you feel you are right, and if you are right, success must finally come. Let your officers know what you think if you differ from them. That is the only way they can intelligently make their decisions.

The past week the Secretary has received requests from a number of experienced and able patriotic workers, and he has information from Assistant Secretaries of others, whose names will be in the next issue of the L.H.W. Bulletin. From letters received, find a few notes appended.

AMOS L. SEAMAN, Secretary.

NOTES OF CORRESPONDENTS.

Among the inquirers for information, with a view to joining the L.H.W., are the following: George B. Clarkson, Past Captain, S. V. Zanesville, O.; Frank M. Graham, Past Captain, Camp 160, S. V. Bloomington, Ind.; the strongest Club in the Indiana Division; Mabel C. Eggleston, Lake Charles, La.; Lina E. Shepherd, Norwood, Kan.

Miss Graham has donated a large to the 15th National Encampment, S. V., and has attended all the Indiana Division Encampments since he took up his membership eight years ago.

Lina Shepherd was a member of the Girls, but had not taken up her new membership since the change of name. She says: "I have never lost my interest in the C.C. or L.H.W. I think our paper in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE speaks much better than any other I have read, and believe the short, spicy letters we now have give better satisfaction than the long and more instructive ones of a year or two ago."

Mabel Eggleston says: "I like our association so much better than any other I have been in. It is the L.H.W., instead of the C.C., and hope all the members will fall into line."

W. F. Hyland, Scituate, Mass., writes that he was a member of the L.H.W. for many years, but that after the organization was changed they had no more meetings and he lost interest. He says: "What is the use of belonging to an Order if you cannot see any of the members and cannot meet with them? It is no use. The money that is paid for dues, since it does not benefit the members? We would like to hear why the change was made, and the reason for doing so."

SECRETARY'S ANSWER.

I have answered frequently such questions and questions as to the L.H.W. in the L.H.W. letter, but by personal letter and through THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, and had presumed that everyone understood the matter. I will answer again.

1. The L.H.W. can have as many State or local meetings as the members of a State or local can hold. If State meetings, the Assistant Secretary will be in charge; if local, or in company, an executive committee will organize a Circle, to hold meetings at the homes of members or some place of pleasant surroundings.

Meetings might be held monthly, and, while proceeding with the L.H.W. in the L.H.W. You can thus see and meet with the members more frequently than under the former system of organization, without annual State meetings being made compulsory on the large States of the West, whose members may live hundreds of miles apart.

2. The money received is merely nominal, 25 cents, which is about one-half the amount paid by members of Divisions. It is organized under the old regime. It is used in paying postage and some printing of the various Secretaries, also for flags and the spreading of patriotic literature.

3. The change was made from the Division, or State, plan to the general plan as at present, (1) to reduce the cumbersome work entailed on officers through maintaining small Divisions, and many officers, who were constantly changing, and many reports quite useless and unnecessary; (2) because in its present form it costs a member about one-half what it formerly did, while more actual work can be accomplished.

Finally, summing it all up in brief, the present is a better and less expensive plan, with a larger scope of work.

AMOS L. SEAMAN, Secretary.

HAPPY HOUSEHOLD.

Sensible Recipes for the Loyal Home Workers.

Take two cups of finely-diced and sifted bread crumbs, one cup of sugar, one-quarter of a pound of finely-chopped nuts, a half pound of finely-chopped citron, one-eighth of a pound of chocolate, eight eggs, one-half teaspoonful of cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful of cloves, a quarter of a cup of coffee, a fourth of a teaspoonful of mace, one spoonful of the sugar and the yolks of the eggs and the sugar together until very light; then add all the ingredients, except the bread crumbs and whites of the eggs. Beat the whites of the eggs very frothy and fold them into the mixture with a part of the egg. No flour is used with this cake. Bake one hour and cover with chocolate icing.

FORK TENDERLOIN.

Select two large tenderloins, split nearly apart; lay both flat on table and sew together, making one large piece; season well; make bread dressing and roll up about four or five inches thick; lay on tenderloin, bringing both sides over the dressing, and sew; gash the outside in small pieces and rub in small pieces of salt pork; when roasted, is nice to slice, either hot or cold.

ORANGE WHIPS.

Take a pint of cream, add a half cup of sugar and whip it very lightly, taking off the cream and put them in small cups or glasses. Have ready a tablespoonful of gelatin, melted. Add this to the cream and pour over the oranges. Set in a cool place till it stiffens.

CHILDREN TEETHING.

MRS. WILSON'S SWEETENED SYRUP should always be used when teething. It soothes the child, soothes the gums, always kills pain, cures whooping cough, and is the best remedy for diarrhea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

of Asia. V. 9. Reference is made specially to Asia Minor.

It is to be noticed that all the above regions that there was therein a great tendency to speculative thought. Schools of philosophy kept thought boiling. People met and discussed. Theology was the subject of great debate. The argument was not without its merits. It was unfavorable to the progress of Christian thought. This was also serviceable, for it gave the early advocates of Christianity a grand opportunity, which it is evident they improved to the fullest extent. See V. 10.

f. People. V. 12. It was unusual for the common people to lead off in opposition to Christ. It is to be noticed that in Acts, 6:12, they did not originate the resistance, but were "stirred up" by false representations of their leaders.

g. Elders. V. 12. Literally, old men. Their authority was a natural outcome of patriarchal rule. Experience is valuable, but it requires time and implies somewhat advanced years.

h. Scribes. V. 12. In early times, when there was no printing, documents were written. Much studied, and hence originated a body of men whose profession was to write. The Latin word for to write is scribe. The scribes wrote copies of the Old Testament. They were very familiar with the book, and were often consulted as to its meaning. Hence, at times they were called doctors of the law. Such men became influential.

i. Council. V. 12. We understand the Sanhedrin. It was a body of 70 persons—leading men of the Jewish nation, representing civil and religious government.

1. First Christian martyr—protomartyr. Acts, 2:23.

2. Principal one of the seven deacons.

3. His name is Greek, a crown.

4. Full of faith.

5. Full of Holy Ghost. 6:10; 7:55.

6. Full of wisdom. 6:10.

7. An Hellenistic Jew. See his name. 7:2.

8. Bold. 7:51, 52.

9. Vigorous in argument. 6:10; 7:54.

10. A miracle worker. 6:8.

11. He created.

12. Made a noble defense. 7:2-53.

13. Defense shows a thorough knowledge of Jewish Church history.

Interpreted the Jewish religion as preparatory in spirit to the Christian—not exclusive as to Gentiles.

15. Forerunner of St. Paul.

16. Victim of a mob—practically a case of mob law.

17. Seeing his enemies acting from ignorance, he begged they be forgiven.

18. Was buried. 8:2.

19. Much lamented. 8:2.

Suggestions on Acts, 6:9-15.

1. In argument it is necessary to maintain great control over one's self lest he become angry and irritated.

2. It is the duty of every Christian to defend his religion in fair discussion. 10.

3. In all court proceedings the truth should be sought. False swearing is a great crime. 11, 13.

4. Reverence for sacred persons, places, customs, etc., should be cultivated. 11, 13, 14.

5. It is much in the favor of a prisoner if his personal appearance strikes the court and jury favorably. 14.

6. Prayer—communion with God—is very fitting at the final hour of life. 59.

7. Be forgiving. Consider evil hereditary, bad environments, erroneous education, when measuring one's guilt.

Outline for Blackboard.

1. Date. Acts, 6:9-15; 7:1-60.

2. Time. A. D. 37.

3. Places. A. Council Chamber, Outside Jerusalem.

4. Accusers. 6:9, 12.

5. Witnesses at trial. Stephen, 6:5, 8.

6. Arrests. 5:28.

7. Court. Sanhedrin. 6:12, 13.

8. Charge. Blasphemy. 6:11, 13, 14.

9. Real cause. Reason in argument. 6:12, 13.

10. Witnesses at trial. False. 6:13.

11. Verdict. Death. 7:58.

12. Executioners. They? 7:57, 58.

See Deu. 17:7.

15. Witnesses of execution.

16. Burial.

17. Lessons. See Suggestions.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

(Correspondents should write each question on a separate sheet, giving name and address, and attention will be paid to communications not accompanied by return address.)

1. It is requested that a stamp be enclosed for reply by mail. Postal cards will be replied to by mail only, and replies by mail will be returned within a week, and if in this column within three weeks.

2. M. Need, N. C.—I read an old Mexican soldier's story in a column which he had married her in 1897? 2. Would his wife have drawn a pension after his death? 3. He died drawing \$17 per month as a soldier of the Mexican army. 4. Yes, if he died; the date of his marriage to the soldier is not a factor in any claim she may file under the act of Jan. 29, 1897. 2. No.

3. M. Need, N. C.—Will you please answer for us? 1. Yes, if he died; the date of his marriage to the soldier is not a factor in any claim she may file under the act of Jan. 29, 1897. 2. No.

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